

REMARKS

Claim 1 is retained only for purposes of continuity, and shall be cancelled once the new claims are entered.

New claim 25 is supported by the original specification at page 21, lines 14-25, which describe the use of rollers that can be patterned with "dimples, protrusions, grid patterns, line patterns, raised portions, indentations, grooves, or a combination thereof." The "mechanical flattening" language is otherwise similar to the claim language of parent applications which have issued as US Patents 6,197,423; 6,503,056; and 6,592,790.

New claim 26 specifies that the roller pattern is one that imparts dimples, indentations, or both to the fiber bodies.

New claims 27 and 28 are supported at page 15, lines 14-20, for example, and elsewhere in the specification.

New claim 28 is supported at page 8, lines 28-30, and elsewhere in the specification.

It is believed that the new claims are in form for allowance.



Craig K. Leon
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 33,293

Date: July 21, 2003
62 Whittemore Avenue
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02140
Tel. (617) 498-4584

CKL\RESP\L3680-06PRELIMINARY.DOC